

## THE GRAND ARMY.

What is Being Done by the Veterans for the Good of the Order.

## NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

The Duties of Some of the Important Committees which Have Been Appointed.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 4, 1893.

Already many of the various sub-committees of the 28th National Encampment have been appointed, and are entering upon their duties. It may prove of interest to know the duties of some of these, so I will give them as issued by the Executive Committee:

The Committee on Accommodations shall arrange for accommodations with hotels, boarding houses and private citizens; secure the reservation of such buildings and grounds, build barracks, and establish and set camps that may be required in providing accommodations for visiting members of the Grand Army of the Republic. They shall also see that the occupants of buildings and grounds are protected from encroachments upon their rights, and shall look after their general welfare and comfort; establish a system for the proper delivery of mail; locate information bureaus in various parts of the two cities, and see that the necessary guide-books and information are placed in the easy reach of visitors.

The Committee on Reunions and Naval Association shall have charge of all Reunions that may be held during Encampment week, shall ascertain as soon as practicable what companies, regiments, brigades, divisions, corps, or other military or naval associations desire to hold Reunions, determine the time and place of such meetings, and make all other necessary arrangements therefor. This committee shall confer with the National officers of the Naval Association as to the character of the display of that body, and make all necessary arrangements for the same.

The Committee on Transportation shall take steps to secure the authorization from railroads of the lowest possible rates from all points in the United States and from Pittsburgh, beginning the first of the week previous to the assembling of the National Encampment, have rates fixed and published as soon as possible, make such other transportation arrangements as may be required, and see that the necessary facilities are provided for the prompt and comfortable conveyance of the members of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Committee on Entertainment shall arrange for the entertainment of the members of the National Encampment, and shall see that the sessions of that body, see that it is suitably decorated, furnished, and lighted; that it is kept in proper order, and that requisite facilities are provided for the members of the Grand Army of the Republic. This committee shall also have charge of all arrangements for Campfire meetings.

## KEYSTONE.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS.

INDIANA.—James T. Johnston, the Department Commander, in recent orders gives much space to the subject of inspection and the election of officers.

The attention of Posts is again called to the conditions for the election of officers. The Posts have not responded as promptly as they should in order that the committee may proceed with their work. Posts who wish to contribute must send the amounts immediately.

There are a great many old soldiers traveling over the country, leaving one home for another, and in a number of instances they have been directed out of their way to Indianapolis, instead of sending them direct to their place of destination. It is very important when so many worthy comrades are out of employment, and the Soldiers' Homes are full to overflowing, that this sinless traveling army be directed to the right place, and the comrades throughout the State are requested not to send them to this city, where they cannot get either work or assistance. The comrades of this city have very generous hearts, and are ready to do anything for the needy, but the funds to respond to the wholesale demands that are constantly being made upon them. Out of the 2,000 or more soldiers who reside in this city, a great many will be discharged during the winter, and the comrades here will have all they can do to look after the wants of the worthy and deserving comrades and their families who actually reside here.

## IOWA.

The Department Commander, Phil Schaller, in recent General Orders, says he identifies, relies upon the best efforts of the comrades in reducing the suspended list, and in energetically recruiting our ranks. Comrades, let no one be deterred from doing their duty, but cordially and earnestly invite him to join us in our efforts to uphold the principles for which we fought, and to assist our needy comrades and their widows and orphans.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

MICHIGAN.—Matthew Arts Post, 341, Day, was organized March 10, 1891. It is a very old Post, and the Commander, who since that time has alternated, filled the office and also that of Adjutant, with the honor to his credit of never missing a meeting. The Post built a fine hall, 24 by 50 feet, completely furnished, and has paid all the expenses. The W.R.C. of the Post has been of great help in liquidating the expenses and in keeping up the life and spirit of the comrades.

## MISSOURI.

The Department Commander, Thomas B. Rogers, in recent orders announces that the Department Council of Administration has selected April 11 and 12, 1894, as the date for the assembling of the 28th National Encampment at Lebanon. He very clearly sets the distinction between members who are "suspended" and "dropped." A comrade can only be suspended by a vote of the Post, after he is six months in arrears for dues. He is not suspended, but he is dropped. A comrade who is dropped is notified of his arrears in writing by the Post Quartermaster. He is restored to membership in good standing by simply paying his dues. A "dropped" member is entirely out of the Order, and to be reinstated must make application on the regular blank, which shall take the same course as that of a recruit. When reinstated by him, he shall pay his dues, and be obligated, but he is not reinstated by him. By-laws of the Post. A "dropped" member can be reinstated either by the Post which dropped him or by any other Post. When reinstated by any other Post, he shall pay an amount not exceeding one year's dues of his former Post, which shall be collected and forwarded by the Post which dropped him. A "dropped" member can be reinstated either by the Post which dropped him or by any other Post. When reinstated by any other Post, he shall pay an amount not exceeding one year's dues of his former Post, which shall be collected and forwarded by the Post which dropped him.

## NEW YORK.

Harry Lee Post, 21, Brooklyn, has gotten a new roster. Among its features is a Bureau of Employment and Relief Committee, composed of Comrades Geo. W. Beany, James D. Wade, Edward T. Forman, John Hill, Martin Ecken, John M. Mendenhall, Thos. P. Brown, Bernard Murphy, Henry W. Weller, Jr. This committee is empowered to act promptly on all applications for charity where immediate relief is required.

E. A. Slocum Post, 211, Fairport, recently held a very successful Campfire. There was an abundance of beans, coffee, and oysters. Speeches were made by Comrades Stevens and

Robbins. Comrade Wilson read an interesting paper on the battle of Gettysburg, which was attentively listened to. D. D. Grabbarger recited a poem, after which Comrade Wilson was called upon to read a poem on his own composition, "To Our Old Campfire," and at its close he was warmly applauded.

William G. Mitchell Post, 533, at their last meeting, held a very successful Campfire, with a handsome set of engraved resolutions, framed handsomely, as a token of their appreciation. The presentation speech was made by Post Commander William Mitchell, to Comrade J. H. Marshall, who presented the committee a beautiful silk Headquarters flag, to be used in the future parades of the Grand Army of the Republic. The flag was officially received by Grand Marshal Barry on behalf of the comrades.

Phil Kearny Post, 8, is not only the oldest Post in the Department, but is one of the most active and energetic. The members are now engaged in replenishing its relief fund for destitute comrades, and they propose giving a vocal and instrumental entertainment at their Headquarters on Monday evening, Dec. 11, 1893, on Jan. 11, 1894, which should be a success. The plan, it is said, is to make an examination of the sewing machines in the homes of the persons whom he selects, charging a sum ranging from \$1.00 to \$5.00, and to sell a second-hand machine, which he says he will send from Albany with the material from which the uniforms are to be made, but the matter has not yet come.

Joseph P. Cleary, the Department Commander, in recent orders says the following new Posts have been mustered: Post 291, Chester, N. Y.; Post 292, New York; Post 293, New York; Post 294, New York; Post 295, New York; Post 296, New York; Post 297, New York; Post 298, New York; Post 299, New York; Post 300, New York.

The Department Commander again calls the attention of Post Commanders to the suspended list. He says that it is the duty of the Post Commander to see that the suspended list is kept up to date, and that the comrades who are suspended are notified of their suspension. He also says that the comrades who are suspended are notified of their suspension.

A grand musical and literary entertainment was given at the Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, on Monday evening, Dec. 6, 1893. The entertainment was given at the Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, on Monday evening, Dec. 6, 1893.

During the entertainment the band played many of the popular songs of the day, and the comrades who were present were very much pleased with the entertainment.

Willard Post, Troy, has done what probably no other Post in the country has done, and that is the reduction of the annual dues. There is a good surplus in the treasury, and the comrades are very much pleased with the result. The comrades are very much pleased with the result.

W. W. Stephenson Post, 699, Brooklyn, will be presented with a stand of colors by the family of the man after whom it is named. Col. Wm. E. Sinn, proprietor of the Park Theater, not only offered the free use of the Park Theater for the ceremonies, but suggested that the stand of colors be presented to the family of the man after whom it is named. Col. Wm. E. Sinn, proprietor of the Park Theater, not only offered the free use of the Park Theater for the ceremonies, but suggested that the stand of colors be presented to the family of the man after whom it is named.

Gilbert Post, Green Island, held a very enjoyable Campfire recently. The Post had an excellent time, and the comrades were very much pleased with the result. The comrades are very much pleased with the result.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

The court-martial proceedings of August Wentz Post, No. 1, in the case of Charles Peters, together with the findings and sentence of dishonorable discharge, has been approved by the Department and is hereby promulgated to the Department.

## THE RELIEF CORPS.

Gleanings from National Headquarters—Notes from the Departments.

## GIVE GOODLY GIFTS.

And Do Not Hoard Your Favors and Flowers When There Are So Many Who Need Them.

We should cultivate the habit of generous giving; of continual, uncounted, unstinted gifts. We should give as God gives; of our best, of our choicest, to those who need the gifts of brotherly love.

We should give joyfully, gladly, thinking ourselves the most blessed of earth that we are given the opportunity of helping others. It is uplifting, it is exalting, it is a mark of our sonship in the kingdom of God.

Think over all that marvelous story of our blessed Lord; the story of his first formal entrance in the synagog, "He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted"; the story of the sermon on the mount; of his miracles; of his parables; and what is it but the gospel of giving; the dispensation of love.

Blind are we, indeed, when we fail to see that this is the sum and substance of living; the beginning of life that has its fruition in eternity.

When God gives it is the perfect sunshine, the source of life and light; it is the perfect gift, and that which the dry and parched earth, the perfection of the fruit and the grain, the nut and the tuber, and rich purple clusters of the vine.

He asked no crutches to his children. When they asked He sends no warm and muggy clothing. He sends the beauty of the sunset even for His most thankful ones. He makes the rain to rain upon the just and the unjust.

THE BOX ALL HAVE SEEN.

Not long since a California woman, Elizabeth Grinnell, told how a church society packed a box of "partly worn or outgrown clothing" for the family of a retired and destitute minister.

There were some pieces of old ingrain carpet; some nicely-done-up shirts, folded so as to conceal the broken collar-bands and the badly worn under sides; a worn wrapper, with the buttons cut off; collars and cuffs, with frayed edges; a pair of old blankets, "ghosts of former comfort"; some hats and bonnets, with the feathers and best ribbons cut off; gloves, minus fingers, and a Noah's ark game, with the legs and tails of half the animals missing.

There were many other miscellaneous things, and yet the box was full, and it was so announced by the minister the Sunday following from the pulpit. This announcement brought, from an unknown donor, new suits of clothing for everyone in the family, a bolt of bleached muslin, a suit of bright flannel, new dress patterns, a web for the boy, with a knife in the pocket, and other things new and good, from a Christ-like giver.

And with the gifts was a note, in typewriting, to conceal the source of giving, and it read:

"In recognition of good and faithful service, many times unrequited, rendered to the Church in years gone by, the enclosed articles are affectionately offered."

Then it was the women saw their frowzy gifts in their true light. They unpacked their boxes and threw out the useless articles one by one, and in their stead placed the new, bright, comfortable, cheering gifts. And then there they pledged themselves never to solicit old clothes from a congregation that were "purple and fine linen."

"That night I dreamed," says the writer, "that it was the Judgment Day. A great many of our church people were there hearing 'about the deeds done in the body.'"

"Suddenly a great box was rolled in front of the judgment seat, and in it were all the partly-worn cast-off clothing we ever donated for retired and destitute ministers. We were frightened, when a voice said lovingly, 'I was naked and ye clothed me.' Then I dreamed that we all fell on our faces and cried, for we remembered the frayed linen and worn old blankets."

Dear sisters of the Relief Corps, pledged to befriend and comfort the old soldiers of the Union, how are you keeping your vows? Are your gifts the best gifts? Are your thoughts the soul-compelling thoughts which crystallize into the fairest and purest and holiest gifts?

Unite and labor day and night. Let theirs be the brightest banners, the sweetest flowers, the best treasures of loving women's limitless resources for the old soldiers of the flag. Bless and beautify their humble homes; carry sunshine and cheer into the asylums where their fast-fading years are spent. And let every gift be marked, "In recognition of good and faithful service, many times unrequited, rendered to our country and our flag in years gone by, these, our gifts, are affectionately offered."

OH, FOR SOME FRAGRANT BLOSSOMS!

By Annie Wittenmyer, Sanatoga, Pa.

Oh, for some fragrant blossoms,  
Yielding the richest perfume,  
Lilies and pink and white roses,  
Sweetest of all flowers,  
To scatter about the feet of the poor,  
And many weak and bleeding  
With blistered and bleeding feet.

Open your blooming gardens  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in.

Teach them life's sweetest lesson,  
Give of thy love to the poor,  
Tell of his tender compassion,  
His gentle, protecting powers.

Beat your fragrant blossoms,  
Toss them not for the dead,  
But for the living, for the living,  
And children crying for bread;  
O'er some words of comfort,  
Give of thy love to the poor,  
Tell of his tender compassion,

The "Well done" of the Master  
Thou shalt hear him say,  
Keep no flowers for thyself,  
Thy eyes are blind to beauty;  
Thy ears are deaf to hear;  
Thy hands are slow to give;  
Give words of praise to the true,  
For as you deal with others  
The Master will deal with you.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

The first Christmas bells came to us from far-away Seattle. Then it was taken to the next metropolis in the West, Chicago, and soon across the land from coast to coast we shall hear the united music of the W.R.C. sounding "Peace on earth, good will towards men."

The following Christmas call is from General Orders, No. 3, of Jennie S. Holmes, Department President of Washington and Alaska, who, by the way, announces the institution at Elma of Worthington Corps, No. 13:

My sisters of the Department of Washington W.R.C., the Christmas holidays are fast approaching, and we could select no more appropriate season than this to remember the inmates of the Soldiers' Home. It is my earnest desire that each and all donate a bound book, upon the fly-leaf of which put the donors' names, to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

## THE RELIEF CORPS.

Gleanings from National Headquarters—Notes from the Departments.

## GIVE GOODLY GIFTS.

And Do Not Hoard Your Favors and Flowers When There Are So Many Who Need Them.

We should cultivate the habit of generous giving; of continual, uncounted, unstinted gifts. We should give as God gives; of our best, of our choicest, to those who need the gifts of brotherly love.

We should give joyfully, gladly, thinking ourselves the most blessed of earth that we are given the opportunity of helping others. It is uplifting, it is exalting, it is a mark of our sonship in the kingdom of God.

Think over all that marvelous story of our blessed Lord; the story of his first formal entrance in the synagog, "He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted"; the story of the sermon on the mount; of his miracles; of his parables; and what is it but the gospel of giving; the dispensation of love.

Blind are we, indeed, when we fail to see that this is the sum and substance of living; the beginning of life that has its fruition in eternity.

When God gives it is the perfect sunshine, the source of life and light; it is the perfect gift, and that which the dry and parched earth, the perfection of the fruit and the grain, the nut and the tuber, and rich purple clusters of the vine.

He asked no crutches to his children. When they asked He sends no warm and muggy clothing. He sends the beauty of the sunset even for His most thankful ones. He makes the rain to rain upon the just and the unjust.

THE BOX ALL HAVE SEEN.

Not long since a California woman, Elizabeth Grinnell, told how a church society packed a box of "partly worn or outgrown clothing" for the family of a retired and destitute minister.

There were some pieces of old ingrain carpet; some nicely-done-up shirts, folded so as to conceal the broken collar-bands and the badly worn under sides; a worn wrapper, with the buttons cut off; collars and cuffs, with frayed edges; a pair of old blankets, "ghosts of former comfort"; some hats and bonnets, with the feathers and best ribbons cut off; gloves, minus fingers, and a Noah's ark game, with the legs and tails of half the animals missing.

There were many other miscellaneous things, and yet the box was full, and it was so announced by the minister the Sunday following from the pulpit. This announcement brought, from an unknown donor, new suits of clothing for everyone in the family, a bolt of bleached muslin, a suit of bright flannel, new dress patterns, a web for the boy, with a knife in the pocket, and other things new and good, from a Christ-like giver.

And with the gifts was a note, in typewriting, to conceal the source of giving, and it read:

"In recognition of good and faithful service, many times unrequited, rendered to the Church in years gone by, the enclosed articles are affectionately offered."

Then it was the women saw their frowzy gifts in their true light. They unpacked their boxes and threw out the useless articles one by one, and in their stead placed the new, bright, comfortable, cheering gifts. And then there they pledged themselves never to solicit old clothes from a congregation that were "purple and fine linen."

"That night I dreamed," says the writer, "that it was the Judgment Day. A great many of our church people were there hearing 'about the deeds done in the body.'"

"Suddenly a great box was rolled in front of the judgment seat, and in it were all the partly-worn cast-off clothing we ever donated for retired and destitute ministers. We were frightened, when a voice said lovingly, 'I was naked and ye clothed me.' Then I dreamed that we all fell on our faces and cried, for we remembered the frayed linen and worn old blankets."

Dear sisters of the Relief Corps, pledged to befriend and comfort the old soldiers of the Union, how are you keeping your vows? Are your gifts the best gifts? Are your thoughts the soul-compelling thoughts which crystallize into the fairest and purest and holiest gifts?

Unite and labor day and night. Let theirs be the brightest banners, the sweetest flowers, the best treasures of loving women's limitless resources for the old soldiers of the flag. Bless and beautify their humble homes; carry sunshine and cheer into the asylums where their fast-fading years are spent. And let every gift be marked, "In recognition of good and faithful service, many times unrequited, rendered to our country and our flag in years gone by, these, our gifts, are affectionately offered."

OH, FOR SOME FRAGRANT BLOSSOMS!

By Annie Wittenmyer, Sanatoga, Pa.

Oh, for some fragrant blossoms,  
Yielding the richest perfume,  
Lilies and pink and white roses,  
Sweetest of all flowers,  
To scatter about the feet of the poor,  
And many weak and bleeding  
With blistered and bleeding feet.

Open your blooming gardens  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in,  
And let the nothings in.

Teach them life's sweetest lesson,  
Give of thy love to the poor,  
Tell of his tender compassion,  
His gentle, protecting powers.

Beat your fragrant blossoms,  
Toss them not for the dead,  
But for the living, for the living,  
And children crying for bread;  
O'er some words of comfort,  
Give of thy love to the poor,  
Tell of his tender compassion,

The "Well done" of the Master  
Thou shalt hear him say,  
Keep no flowers for thyself,  
Thy eyes are blind to beauty;  
Thy ears are deaf to hear;  
Thy hands are slow to give;  
Give words of praise to the true,  
For as you deal with others  
The Master will deal with you.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

The first Christmas bells came to us from far-away Seattle. Then it was taken to the next metropolis in the West, Chicago, and soon across the land from coast to coast we shall hear the united music of the W.R.C. sounding "Peace on earth, good will towards men."

The following Christmas call is from General Orders, No. 3, of Jennie S. Holmes, Department President of Washington and Alaska, who, by the way, announces the institution at Elma of Worthington Corps, No. 13:

My sisters of the Department of Washington W.R.C., the Christmas holidays are fast approaching, and we could select no more appropriate season than this to remember the inmates of the Soldiers' Home. It is my earnest desire that each and all donate a bound book, upon the fly-leaf of which put the donors' names, to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

Each Corps President shall appoint a committee to solicit books from the friends of the W.R.C. to be sent to the nearest branch of the W.R.C. to which they belong. Let us also solicit books from our friends who are not members of the W.R.C., many of whom would be glad to contribute to so worthy a cause. In this way we will be enabled, at least, to form the nucleus of a library at the Home.

</